

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/009,044

Applicant(s)

STECKER ET AL.

Examiner

Carl H. Layno *Carl H. Layno*
2/15/05

Art Unit

3762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Paper No. 12292004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>02152005</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's amendment and one month extension of time, which was received by the Office on December 29, 2004.

2. Claim 10 is canceled. Claims 11 and 12 have been added. Claims 1-9, 11, and 12 are active.

Drawings

3. In view of the applicant's amendments to the specification, the Examiner is withdrawing the 37 CFR 1.83(a) objection, which was made against Figures 9 and 10 in the last Office action. The originally filed drawings, received by the Office on April 30, 2002, are approved by the Examiner.

Specification

4. In view of the applicant's modifications to the specification, the Examiner is withdrawing the objections which were made against the specification in the last Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. In view of applicant's cancellation of claim 10, the Examiner is withdrawing the 35 U.S.C 112 rejection which was made against this claims in the last Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. Upon further reconsideration of applicant's arguments and amendments to the claims, the Examiner is withdrawing the 35 U.S.C 102(b) and 102(e) rejections of Carter et al '863 and Maltan '185, which were made against claims 1-4 in the last Office action.

Examiner's Amendment

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ajay A. Jagtiani on February 15, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

-Cancel claims 11 and 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

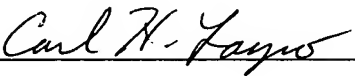
Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carl H. Layno whose telephone number (571) 272-4949. The examiner can normally be reached on 9/4/5.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela D. Sykes can be reached on (571) 272-4955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carl H. Layno", is written over a horizontal line.

CARL LAYNO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

CHL
2/15/2005